



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546



Office of the  
Commissioner

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**Public Hearing – March 14, 2016**  
**Government Administration and Elections Committee**

**Testimony Submitted by Commissioner James Redeker**  
**Department of Transportation**

**HB 5619 – AA Conveying Certain Parcels of State Land and Requiring a Study of Certain State Real Property**

**Section 1- Franklin (DOT file #52-45-5&6).** The Department opposes this section. The property referenced in this legislation is part of the Route 32 highway right of way and no determination has been made as to its need for future transportation projects.

**Section 2- Wilton (DOT file #161-86-41C).** The Department opposes this section. These parcels were acquired for future roadway expansion and the DOT is not releasing any property in the corridor until a final determination is made for the future use of the corridor. These parcels are currently under lease agreement with the Town of Wilton as part of a 35.8 acre recreational and storage use. The lease is for no monetary consideration.

**Section 7- Greenwich (DOT file #56-42-247H).** The Department opposes this section. In December 2015, the Bruce Museum approached the Department to purchase the property in question. A concurrence review of the request indicated a denial for release due to the fact that the Department has plans to widen I-95 in this vicinity and it may be needed for future expansion. The property was approved for lease.

The property is part of the I-95 right of way and FHWA has oversight of the interstate system. The legislature cannot pass laws that are contrary to federal regulations. The FHWA will take issue with this transaction as the original concurrence review for the release (disposition) of the subject real property was undertaken according to the Connecticut Right of Way Procedural Manual. The release of the property was denied in compliance with Department policy. Special legislation cannot create a condition where state law contradicts the federally approved policy manual. The disposition of this parcel would jeopardize future federal funding.

For further information or questions, please contact Pam Sucato ([pamela.sucato@ct.gov](mailto:pamela.sucato@ct.gov)) or CJ Strand ([carl.strand@ct.gov](mailto:carl.strand@ct.gov)) at the Department of Transportation, (860) 594-3013.